

ITEM: 17

SUBJECT: Chester Public Utility District, Chester Wastewater Treatment Plant-Plumas County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of NPDES Permit Renewal, uncontested rescission of Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2004-0051 and uncontested adoption of new Cease and Desist Order.*

BACKGROUND: The Chester Public Utility District (hereinafter Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Chester Wastewater Treatment Plant (hereafter Facility). The Discharger provides sewerage service for the community of Chester and serves a population of approximately 2,500 residents and numerous businesses, but few, if any, industrial dischargers. The facility average dry weather flow design capacity is 0.75 mgd. Average dry weather effluent permitted flow is limited to 0.5 mgd in consideration of dilution studies performed by the Discharger. Secondary treated effluent from the Facility may be discharged seasonally (1 October to 31 May) to Lake Almanor.

The Facility consists of a series of facultative ponds with some minor aeration. One lift station discharges to the headworks, which has a bar screen and a parshall flume for solids removal and flow measurement. The Facility is equipped with chlorination and dechlorination equipment for disinfection as well as chlorine removal prior to discharge to Lake Almanor. When effluent is not being discharged to Lake Almanor, it is stored in the facultative ponds or discharged to constructed wetlands ponds, which do not have an outlet. During dryer years, for example the last three years, no discharge to surface water has occurred.

Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2004-0051, which replaced Cease and Desist Order 89-069, required that the Discharger continue to repair their collection system due to historical high Infiltration and Inflow (I/I), which causes low percentage BOD and TSS removals, occasional disinfection problems, and occasionally, discharges during the Lake discharge prohibition period. In 2007 approximately 6,320 feet of sewer main and laterals were replaced at a cost of \$1,177,000. The Dischargers portion of the cost was \$337,000. In 2008, 250 feet of sewer main was replaced at a cost of \$40,000, two four inch sewer force mains were installed inside the first avenue bridge at a cost of \$13,000, for phase 4 and 5 future projects, and \$25,000 of engineering work was performed for the phase 4 and 5 projects, all costs of which were born by the Discharger. Design is also being performed at this time for the construction of another lift station and force main. The Discharger expects to have most of the sewers with significant I/I problems replaced or repaired by 2015. The new Cease and Desist Order requires continued work on

identification of the most problematic areas and annual reports on progress to eliminate excessive I/I.

ISSUES: None

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the proposed order.

Mgmt. Review_____

Legal Review_____

13 August 2009

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting

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